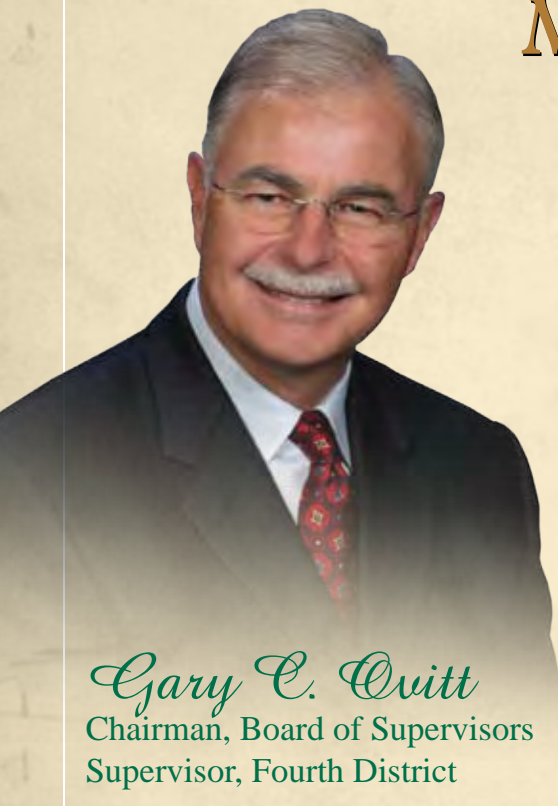




San Bernardino County  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
2009-10 Business Plan

# Message from the Chairman



*Gary C. Ovitt*  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors  
Supervisor, Fourth District

## REPRESENTING

- Ontario
- Chino
- Chino Hills
- Montclair



*Citizens Business Bank Arena, Fourth District*

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our more than 18,000 employees, the County of San Bernardino continued to make strides to improve public safety, build infrastructure, protect and preserve our environment, and expand economic development in 2008.

The county budget is a reflection of the state of the economy. Because we have been conservative and prudent with our financial resources, the current financial doldrums we find ourselves in are tempered by solid fiscal management practices.

As Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, it is my job to make sure financial policies are in place to ensure that adequate resources are available to meet basic financial obligations and that the county achieves financial continuity and stability. The county lives within its means. It never spends more than the resources it has.

The county has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the past two years and a bond rating upgrade from Fitch in September as testimony to our consistently strong financial management, high fund balance levels, and a moderately low debt burden; third party validation that we are doing our job properly.

The downturn in the housing market, a decline in sales tax revenues, and threats posed by the state budget crisis combined with an increased demand for county services has forced the County Administrative Office to tighten the reins on county spending. The county prepared for the current crisis by building a bank of vacant positions and building a healthy budget reserve fund during the recent boom years. Knowing this crisis was coming, a year ago the county imposed strict controls on the filling of vacant county jobs and on all county travel. In October the county instituted a hiring freeze and announced plans to force departments to fund salary increases from within their own budgets.

These measures, which will not affect public safety programs, are designed to help the county avoid having to reduce services to residents and not have to lay off county employees, which would only add to the region's economic difficulties.

As you know, we're in an economic downturn unlike any of us have seen in modern times, with staggering job losses, rising unemployment, and a decimated housing industry. But we continue to work on solutions to these problems. Our top priority is bringing employers, trade and infrastructure that will attract more of the same to our region. We can partially insulate ourselves against global, national and economic trends by taking advantage of our assets as a region, with our affordable land, available work force, affordable housing, recreation, and clean air and water.

I can't predict what the future holds or what the economy or other circumstances are going to bring us. I do know that we not only have the opportunity, but we have a mandate to reinvent ourselves and make tough decisions for the greater good. In short, to lead, which during challenging times is so critical.

Again, I want to thank the many hard-working and dedicated employees who come to work every day and contribute to the successful operation of our county government.

Sincerely,  
Gary C. Ovitt, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors



# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

## First District



*Mojave Desert, First District*

*Brad Mitzelfelt*

### REPRESENTING

Adelanto, Amboy, Apple Valley, Argus, Baker, Baldy Mesa, Barstow, Big River, Cadiz, Cima, Daggett, Earp, Edwards Air Force Base, El Mirage, Essex, Fort Irwin, Goffs, Helendale, Hesperia, Hinkley, Kelso, Kramer, Lake Havasu, Lenwood, Ludlow, Lucerne Valley, Mountain Pass, Needles, Newberry Springs, Nipton, Oak Hills, Oro Grande, Parker Dam, Phelan, Piñon Hills, Red Mountain, Rice, Silver Lakes, Spring Valley Lake, Summit Valley, Trona, Twentynine Palms, Victorville, Vidal, Windy Acres, Wonder Valley, Wrightwood, and Yermo.

## Second District



*California Speedway, Second District*

*Paul Biane*

### REPRESENTING

Upland, Rancho Cucamonga, Fontana, San Antonio Heights, Mt. Baldy Village, Lytle Creek, Devore, Cedar Pines Park, Crestline, Lake Gregory, and Crest Forest.



## Third District



*San Bernardino County Museum,  
Third District*

*Neil Derry*

### REPRESENTING

Big Bear Lake, Grand Terrace, Highland, Loma Linda, Redlands, San Bernardino, Yucaipa, Yucca Valley, Angelus Oaks, Arrowbear, Baldwin Lake, Barton Flats, Big Bear City, Blue Jay, Boulder Bay, Bryn Mawr, Cedar Glen, Copper Mountain Mesa, Crafton, East Highlands, Erwin Lake, Fawnskin, Flamingo Heights, Forest Falls, Fredalba, Green Valley Lake, Johnson Valley, Joshua Tree, Lake Arrowhead, Lake Williams, Landers, Mentone, Moonridge, Morongo Valley, Oak Glen, Pioneerstown, Rimforest, Rimrock, Running Springs, Seven Oaks, Skyforest, Sugarloaf, and Twin Peaks.

## Fifth District



*San Bernardino County Central  
Courthouse, Fifth District*

*Josie Gonzales*

*Vice-Chair, Board of Supervisors*

### REPRESENTING

San Bernardino, Colton, Rialto, Fontana, Bloomington, and Muscoy.







*Mark H. Uffer*  
County Administrative Officer



## Message from the CAO

When I became County Administrative Officer five years ago, I knew the County of San Bernardino had one of the best collections of talent in all of government. However, 2008 was the year I came to fully appreciate the degree of dedication and creativity possessed by the county's elected officials, managers, and employees.

Despite the constant and growing threat of fiscal distress, our county managed to develop new and better ways to manage our resources, deliver services, protect the public, create recreational and cultural opportunities, and develop our economy while coping with the advancing downturn.

This report outlines our major accomplishments from the past year in the five service areas highlighted by the Board of Supervisors during the 2008 State of the County event – Public Safety, Healthy Communities, Arts, Culture & Tourism, Economic Development & Recovery, and Green County – as well as Good Government, which is the underlying theme of everything we do.

What makes these accomplishments, some of which were honored with national and international awards, particularly significant if not downright amazing is the fact they were achieved in a climate of fiscal uncertainty. And it is within this ominous climate that the county racked up its greatest achievement of 2008: Maintaining its fiscal health against all odds.

The credit for this ultimately goes to the Board of Supervisors, which for years has resisted the temptation to spend heavily during the boom years in order to save for the eventual busts. However, I believe the Board would also give the credit to the budget staff of my office, which has consistently managed the county's revenues and expenditures in such a way that guarantees top-notch public services and the completion of vital capital improvements while building healthy reserves and wisely managing staffing levels.

This, along with clear communication to the Board, the public, and the county organization, is a big part of the reason our county has been able to avoid layoffs and reductions in vital services despite a historic and sudden reduction in property and sales tax revenues.

The only question now is how long the current downturn will last, and whether even the best management practices will be enough to carry us through a long fiscal drought without having to resort to draconian measures.

I can't answer this without a crystal ball. No one can. But what I can promise is that your county will continue to manage your tax dollars wisely, provide the best in customer service, continue moving forward with projects that will make the future a better place, and keep open the lines of communication.

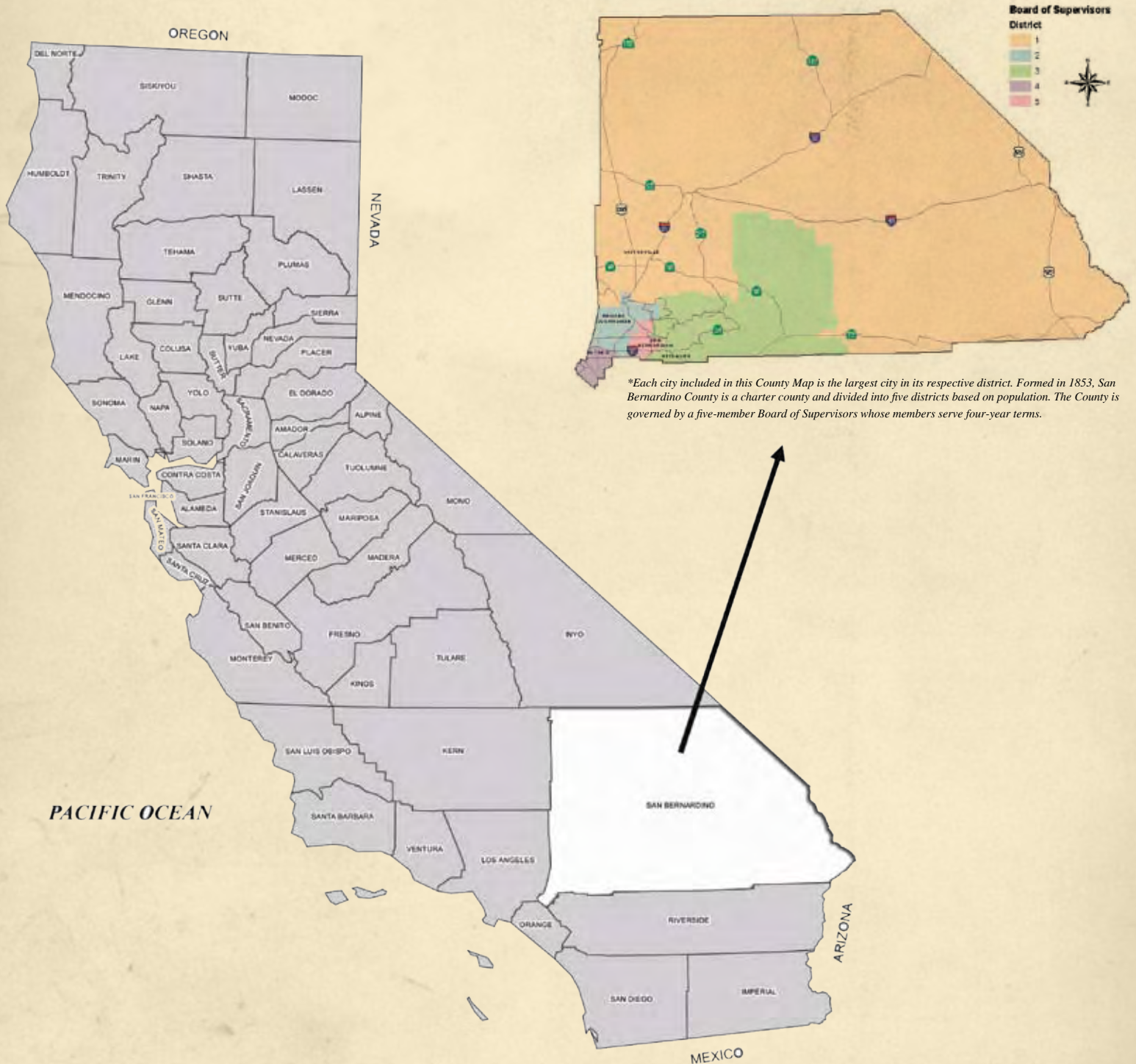
In the meantime, I thank you for your patience and support.

Sincerely,  
Mark H. Uffer  
County Administrative Officer

## COUNTY PROFILE

**A**t more than 20,000 square miles, San Bernardino County is the largest county in the continental United States and provides a vast array of opportunities for its citizens.

San Bernardino County is larger than nine different states and boasts an economy that ranks among the 50 largest in the world. As one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the United States, this developing region offers its population a temperate climate, a variety of quality educational and recreational facilities, and an ideal centralized location for access to destinations throughout all of Southern California and the southwestern United States.





# COUNTY TRUCK WINS AT SPEEDWAY



The County of San Bernardino's long economic development association with the Auto Club Speedway enjoyed its brightest moment on a brisk February afternoon in 2008 when a race truck sponsored by the county won a race sponsored by the county in front of thousands of fans and a national television audience.

The victory gave the county's efforts to attract employers to the region an entire afternoon of coast-to-coast visibility as the winning vehicle led lap after lap, boasting the county's name and website to countless TV viewers.

Starting 20th in a field of 35 drivers, Kyle Busch quickly raced to the front of the pack, led more laps than any other driver, and finished almost a second and a half ahead of the second-place truck in the San Bernardino County 200.

Then-Board of Supervisors Second District Supervisor Paul Biane and Fourth District Supervisor Gary Ovitt met with Busch prior to the race, and Biane awarded Busch the race trophy following his dramatic victory. The county takes full advantage of the speedway's presence in the county's Speedway Redevelopment Area by promoting the county to the hundreds of businesses that converge on the race venue twice a year for NASCAR events. Sponsoring the truck race and Kyle Busch's winning entry gave the county's Economic Development efforts national TV and radio exposure.

A study conducted several years ago estimated that a single race weekend pumps more than \$100 million into the area economy. The County's Speedway Redevelopment Agency is working with a developer to locate a hotel and retail center across from the Speedway, and City of Fontana officials are working hard to attract more hotels to the city so NASCAR fans can stay local. In 2008, the County's Economic Development Agency worked closely with the Speedway to invite race fans to explore some of San Bernardino County's other great attractions, such as our mountain resorts or our diverse parks, during their visit.





# STATE OF THE COUNTY



The 2008 State of the County of San Bernardino event again meshed economic development with an effort to inform stakeholders of key initiatives and accomplishments of the year. The April 3rd event at the Ontario Convention Center drew nearly 1,300 people to a showcase of opportunity and progress in San Bernardino County. It was the largest such showcase in the County's history, reflecting the region's emergence as a new center of investment and economic expansion.

The theme, One Shared Vision, invoked the idea that while San Bernardino County is home to dozens of diverse communities spread across 20,000 square miles, these communities share common goals. They each want to improve quality of life for residents, enhance economic opportunities, support healthy lifestyles and healthcare, provide safe environments and foster the cultural and recreational resources that help families enjoy life and expand their horizons.

Such common values and goals provide a place to center dialogue and focus resources. The 2008 State of the County was designed as a forum and networking event where attendees could engage representatives of San Bernardino County, its departments, its cities and other stakeholders.

The evening opened with a networking reception featuring displays from 33 county departments and 15 cities. Attendees then moved into the main presentation room for dinner and a lively discussion featuring then-Chairman Paul Biane and moderator Ross Shafer, as well as video presentations from present Chairman Gary Ovitt, supervisors Brad Mitzelfelt and Dennis Hansberger, and present Vice Chair Josie Gonzales.

Following dinner, the audience was invited to join the Supervisors in individual networking rooms that showcased their districts while providing a comfortable atmosphere to interact with the officials and their staffs.



# 2008 IN REVIEW

## Public Safety



### Board acts to expand Emergency Operations Center

On October 28 the Board of Supervisors approved a much-needed expansion of the County's Emergency Operations Center in Rialto. The 1,530-square-foot expansion to the 6,000-square-foot facility will enhance the county's ability to coordinate multi-agency responses to both small- and large-scale disasters. In September, the Federal Emergency Management Agency awarded the County a \$323,943 grant for EOC expansion. It was the only jurisdiction in California to receive such a grant. The total cost of the project is \$512,000 with the balance to come from the County's Capital Improvement Program and other County funds.

### County Fire staff assists Gulfport following Hurricane Gustav

On September 2 a four-member County Fire Incident Management Team departed for Gulfport, Mississippi, to assist the Gulf Coast city in its recovery from Hurricane Gustav and help the community prepare for future disasters. The team's primary mission was to support the city's efforts to create a written Incident Action Plan that would include a scenario based around a Category 4 or greater hurricane. The plan will be shared by Gulfport and the County of San Bernardino, and will contain specific information about each jurisdiction, including phone numbers for key personnel and maps of the city and county with Global Positioning Satellite coordinates for important public facilities. The county made a commitment following Hurricane Katrina in 2005 to help Gulfport in times of need. Gulfport made the same commitment, having sent fire officials to assist the county during the 2007 wildfires.



### New telephone notification system will give residents control

On June 24 the Board of Supervisors approved a contract to provide the county with a new Telephone Emergency Notification System, or TENS, that will offer residents the ability to add cell phone numbers, work phone numbers, and other phone numbers besides their home numbers to the list of numbers that would receive emergency notices during disasters. The system will also allow residents to sign up for emergency notices via e-mail and text messaging in a variety of languages. The current system has been an overwhelming success, placing more than 240,000 calls during 20 wildfire and flood-threat events since it was created in 2004. However, the current system can only send recorded alerts to land-line phone numbers provided to the county by the various phone service providers. "This system has the potential to put residents in control of how they receive disaster information," said Supervisor Paul Biane, who was chairman at the time of the Board's action.



## Public Safety (Continued)



### Supervisors pick up two national awards from WeTip

On May 2 the county collected two awards from the national crime-fighting organization WeTip during the group's National Conference in Ontario. Fifth District Supervisor Josie Gonzales was honored as the "County Supervisor of the Year," and First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt received on the county's behalf the "Program Development Award" in recognition of the county's implementation of an illegal dumping enforcement program. In 2007 the county developed a comprehensive anti-illegal dumping program that included the adoption of an illegal dumping ordinance, which created new fines and penalties for dumpers, the installation of warning signs and surveillance cameras in problem dumping areas, the creation of a reward program for tipsters, and a partnership with WeTip.

### Mitzelfelt's Quake Panel Appointment Confirmed by Senate

On February 28 the California State Senate confirmed Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's appointment of County Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt to the California Seismic Safety Commission. "Our region is overdue for a major earthquake and I've been working with the Commission to ensure that our region is prepared for it," Mitzelfelt said. The commission investigates earthquakes, researches earthquake-related issues and reports and recommends to the Governor and Legislature policies and programs needed to reduce earthquake risk.

### Supervisors Approve Barring Sex Offenders from Ice Cream Trucks

On March 25 the Board of Supervisors unanimously supported a proposed law to prevent sex offenders from operating ice cream trucks. Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt also proposed drafting an ordinance that would implement the provision of the bill in San Bernardino County. The Board endorsed Assembly Bill 2169 to prohibit cities and counties from issuing a business license to operate an ice cream truck to registered sex offenders. The ordinance would enact such a prohibition in San Bernardino County regardless of whether or not the bill becomes a law. The bill was proposed after parents in a Riverside County neighborhood found out their local ice cream truck driver was a registered sex offender. There are more than 250 ice cream trucks operating in San Bernardino County.

### County targets San Francisco for dumping illegal immigrant criminals in Yucaipa

On July 8 the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution admonishing the City of San Francisco for dumping illegal immigrant drug dealers in a youth halfway house in Yucaipa where they promptly escaped. The same thing occurred last year when four El Salvadoran drug dealers were sent to a San Bernardino County halfway house. San Bernardino law enforcement and probation officials did not find out about either situation until after the fact. "The County of San Bernardino seeks to recoup all law enforcement and probation costs from the City of San Francisco, initiating a law suit if necessary," said Supervisor Gary Ovitt, who spearheaded the county's action. "We are further looking into the practice, by the city's probation department, of not notifying affected jurisdictions



## Public Safety (Continued)



with the specifics and particulars of the offenders being sent to our local facilities. The citizens of San Bernardino County should not have to pay for or be burdened with the fallout from this flawed and potentially dangerous policy”

### District Attorney launches multi-agency effort to fight truancy

Recognizing that truancy is often the first step in a child’s journey into crime and the social welfare system, the District Attorney’s Office in 2008 brought together several agencies in a concerted effort to keep young people from skipping school. San Bernardino County’s dropout rate has steadily increased since 2002 to its current level of 26.6% - nearly 10,000 children. The Truancy Abatement Coalition, or TAC, coordinates delivery of County services before a child drops out of school. Partners include Public Health, Behavioral Health, the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department, Transitional Assistance, Department of Children’s Services, Workforce Development and San Bernardino County Schools. The group meets quarterly to discuss streamlining the delivery of services and how to target the problems that lead to truancy.

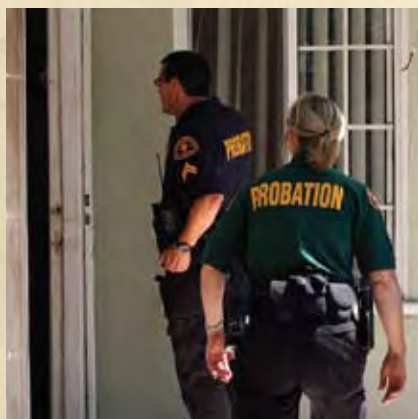
### Rialto Gang Injunction

In 2008, District Attorney Michael A. Ramos and Supervisor Paul Biane co-sponsored a Gang Injunction Program, which allows the county to combat gangs through civil proceedings. These injunctions apply to “territorial gangs” that conduct their criminal efforts in a defined area. The abatement actions prevent gang members from congregating in a particular area. On July 2, Ramos announced the filing of the county’s first gang injunction lawsuit, targeting South Side Rialto, a violent, multi-generational criminal street gang that has plagued the citizens of Rialto and the surrounding areas for decades. On August 19, Ramos announced the filing of a lawsuit seeking a gang injunction in the City of Colton against the Colton City Crips. This was the first gang injunction lawsuit filed by the county in which “banishment” was requested. Banishment makes gang members subject to arrest for continuing to trespass on the premises.

### Cold Case Team

On April 14 the Sheriff’s Department and the District Attorney’s Office joined forces to establish a Cold Case team composed of four detectives and a deputy district attorney. During its first year the team cleared several cases which otherwise would likely have remained unsolved. Among their successes were:

- Paul Zamora arrested for a 1982 killing in Bloomington
- Guy Johnson and Chris Tolliver arrested and sentenced to prison for a killing in 2000
- Dashon Parker arrested for a murder in 2000
- Tracy Petrocelli arrested for a murder in 1981
- Robert Kirkup arrested for a 1992 case
- Darrin Brown arrested for killing a woman in Hesperia in 1989
- David Beltran arrested for a 2003 murder
- Gustavo Perez arrested and, in the team’s first jury trial, convicted for killing his wife in Big Bear in 1992





## Public Safety (Continued)



### Operation Desert Heat

From May 30 to June 30, the Sheriff's Department conducted an extended enforcement operation aimed at cracking down on an increase in crime and gang activity in the Victor Valley. A total of 1,203 arrests were made during the operation and more than 50 parolees were returned to state prison. During the month-long operation, robberies reported in the Victor Valley decreased by 41 percent from the same time period in 2007, carjackings decreased by 40 percent, and vehicle thefts dropped by 19 percent. Sheriff Gary Penrod noted that while deputies and officers made more than 1,200 arrests, there was only one use-of-force incident. "That speaks to the high level of professionalism our guys exhibit," the Sheriff said. "I'm convinced we have made a positive impact on gangs and crime in the Victor Valley."

### Victorville Fire Department Joins County Fire team

On July 5, the County Fire Department began serving as the City of Victorville's fire department. The Victorville City Council approved the contract with the county on May 13, with the expectation of transitioning its employees and starting a paramedic program for city residents within 45 days, and the county proudly accomplished that goal. County Fire is dedicated to providing professional fire protection services, including investigations, advance life support services, rescue services and aircraft rescue and firefighting to the citizens of Victorville and establishing a long term relationship with the city.

### CERT trailers ready for use to roll in trainings and disasters

In April, seven Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training/Response Trailers were rolled out to communities within the county for the purpose of assisting in CERT training and to provide supplies for CERT-trained volunteers to help their community during times of disaster. The County Fire Department Office of Emergency Services purchased the CERT Training/Response Trailers with the help of federal grant dollars for San Bernardino County cities, towns and unincorporated areas. Five of the seven trailers will be located in the county's five emergency management zones in the Town of Apple Valley, Big Bear City, Ontario, Redlands, and the Town of Yucca Valley. In addition one trailer is located at Fire Station 2 in the unincorporated community of Devore, and one at the County Emergency Operations Center in Rialto. The CERT program trains residents to assist in preparing for, and responding to, disasters until professional emergency personnel can arrive. More than 6,000 County residents are CERT-trained and there are currently more than 20 active CERT programs throughout the County.

### Supervisors approve ordinances to prevent catastrophic loss

In September, the Board of Supervisors approved ordinances requiring fire-resistant roofs and defensible space for homes in the mountain communities. The Roof Ordinance mandates that all roof coverings be either non-combustible or of fire-retardant material not composed of organic fiber with a minimum Class A rating by July 1, 2014. The defensible space ordinance was modified to include green vegetation management, not just dead fuel reduction. The county goes beyond the state requirement and is mandating 100 feet of clearance to include adjacent property where there is a hazard. Time and again excessive fuels around homes have contributed to wildfires, destroying many homes.



# Healthy Communities



## County sets out to gauge adequacy of trauma system

On May 29 the county set out to study the adequacy of the county's trauma system. The county-managed Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency (ICEMA) developed a plan to perform a countywide assessment of the County's existing trauma system, taking into account that there are currently only two designated trauma hospitals in San Bernardino County, the county's Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton and Loma Linda University Medical Center. There are no trauma centers in the High Desert. The study will assess the potential cost and revenue implications of any additional trauma centers that are recommended, and if designated, how those designations would impact current designated trauma hospitals in the county. "San Bernardino County, especially the High Desert region, has witnessed significant growth in housing, population and traffic," said Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt, whose First District takes in most of the county's desert communities. "This countywide assessment will show what the current needs are based on our existing trauma system and the expanding population. It will also show where changes should be implemented in order to best serve the needs of the public, which I suspect will support my goal of bringing a trauma center to the High Desert."

## Supervisors approve more than \$2 million for High Desert Youth Center

On March 4 the Board of Supervisors approved a \$2,154,589 contract with Victor Community Support Services to provide one-stop youth services in the High Desert. The One-Stop Transitional Age Youth Center will be another tool to combat the problems of gangs and homelessness in the High Desert by helping at-risk youth transition into self sufficiency. The money allocated by supervisors will provide housing support, assist with education completion, provide vocational and employment support, skill building necessary for community life, recovery and co-occurring specialized programs, recreation activities, access to showers and laundry facilities, email/internet access, parenting and other necessary skills for their success. The One-Stop Transitional Age Youth Center Services will be available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week to kids ages 16-25, and will work in collaboration with other community based organizations and the San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health, Probation Department, Department of Public Health and Department of Children Services.

## County detains tuberculosis patient

In September, an alert County Department of Public Health Employee performing above and beyond the call of duty most likely saved countless people from exposure to a tuberculosis patient who repeatedly refused orders to cease public contact. In what was a first for San Bernardino County, the Department of Public Health issued an Order of Detention for the patient and secured a court order allowing the patient to be taken into medical custody to be treated at Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton. The patient complied with the order and without incident was transported to ARMC, where the patient was evaluated, treated, and not allowed to leave until it was determined that it was safe for the patient to mingle with the public.



## Healthy Communities (Continued)



### State commends improvements in child support efforts

In March the state recognized efforts by the county Department of Child Support Services to improve the collection and distribution of child support funds by removing the county from the state's child support program corrective action process. The state began officially monitoring the county's child support program under the corrective action process in June 2003 when the program failed to meet state standards. The county responded by instituting a new management team led by current Director Connie Brunn, revamping the department's business practices, changing the department's management culture, and eventually registering a notable increase in collections and payments.

### Supervisors Declare April "National Donate Life Month"

The Board of Supervisors raised awareness about the need for organ donations by declaring April as "National Donate Life Month." A presentation to the board included a video presentation featuring Supervisor Gary Ovitt, Assemblywoman Sharon Runner, Assistant Sheriff Warren Nobles and his son Scott, a sheriff's deputy. Scott was the recipient of a heart transplant in 1998 and Assemblywoman Runner is on a waiting list for a double lung transplant. "Both Scott and Sharon personify the dilemma of the critical need for organ transplants and what can happen when that occurs. Sadly the availability and need don't match," Supervisor Ovitt said. Each organ and tissue donor saves the lives of as many as 50 people. Each day, about 77 people receive organ transplants. Approximately 98,000 individuals await organ transplants at any given moment. Currently there are 14,000 names on the donor list. Every 20 minutes another name is added to the waiting list.

### County opens employee health clinic in the High Desert

In January, the County Human Resources Department's Employee Benefits and Services Division opened the Center for Employee Health and Wellness, High Desert Clinic in Victorville. The facility provides county employees with access to a large part of their work-related medical care in a setting that is not only convenient but time-saving for employees and their departments. The High Desert Clinic provides Pre-Employment Physical exams, Return to Work exams, Yearly Medical Surveillance testing, Commercial Driver's License exams, and the initial treatment and follow-up care for most work-related injuries.

### 6th Annual Health and Safety Fair attracts thousands

On June 14, the 6th annual Health and Safety Fair hosted by Supervisor Paul Biane attracted more than 5,000 residents to Jack Bulik Park in Fontana. Hundreds of residents received free optical, dental, health and fitness checkups during the fair. In addition, the California Highway Patrol inspected 118 child safety seats. The CHP identified 66 child safety seats that needed to be replaced and provided new seats to parents. Meanwhile, Supervisor Biane's office distributed 2,000 reusable shopping bags. The bags included a pamphlet describing how plastic and paper bag waste affects the environment.



## Healthy Communities (Continued)

### Veterans' Affairs and Behavioral Health provide services to military

The Departments of Veterans Affairs and Behavioral Health, in partnership with the Loma Linda VA Healthcare System, hosted information fairs to increase awareness of and educate the public regarding issues faced by veterans and their families. Nearly a third of veterans who seek care through Veterans Administration (VA) health centers receive a mental health diagnosis. With more and more soldiers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan with mental health concerns, the Veterans Administration recognizes the need for increased services for veterans and their families. The fairs provide information on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, mental illness, and how to obtain VA benefits.





# Arts, Culture and Tourism



## New libraries open in Mentone and Fontana

The 7,400-square-foot Mentone Senior Center & Branch Library, the first facility in the County Library system to combine a full-service library with a senior center as an integral part of the library, opened in August. In April the county's Fontana branch moved into a new, two-story, 93,000-square-foot facility on Sierra Avenue, next door to the city's civic center. The Lewis Library & Technology Center boasts the latest in high-tech library tools, as well as loads of technology for patrons. Among the offerings are more than 200 public-access computers, a special video technology lab, Early Learning computer stations for youngsters, unique stock-car-inspired computer carrels in the teen area, and an endlessly entertaining interactive "waterfall" of words and letters at the entry to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Children's Library. The library also offers free WiFi so patrons can bring their own laptops and surf the Internet from anywhere in the building, including the full-service coffee bar. The Fontana branch was planned from the beginning as a "green" building, using many recycled materials and energy-saving features. The building will be nominated for a Silver Certificate from the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program.



## Ground broken for new Phelan Library

On January 11 the county broke ground on a new Phelan Library, an 8,400 square-foot building that will serve as the first stand-alone public library in the area. San Bernardino County currently provides library services at a 5,000 square-foot shared facility located at Serrano High School. "That meant they could only use the library after three in the afternoon and on Saturdays. When the new branch opens later this year, people will have the same full access now enjoyed in other full-service branches in the high desert," said County Librarian Ed Kieczkowski. The new library will feature a 750 square-foot meeting room, which will be available for community use, a 600 square-foot computer training lab, a 600 square foot children's area, and a 450 square-foot young adult area. The facility will be able to support up to 30 public-access computers, which will be a significant improvement over the two public access computers currently available at the Serrano High School facility.



## Regional Parks holds science camp

San Bernardino County Regional Parks Active Outdoors program division developed an Environmental Science Camp to put students in touch with science and nature and help promote conserving natural resources. The camp was held in April at Yucaipa Regional Park and offered to 4th and 5th grade students at schools in the region. Former Superintendent of Schools Herbert R. Fischer, Ph. D., and Josie Gonzales, Supervisor, Fifth District, paid a visit to the Science Camp for a first-hand glimpse of the camp's curriculum. Students are under the guidance of an experienced naturalist and given



## Arts, Culture and Tourism (Continued)



overviews of botany, geology and biology and taught how to better conserve natural resources and the role living things play in environmental protection.

### Anglers compete for biggest catch at county trout derbies

Regional Parks held trout fishing derbies in five parks throughout the county in 2008. Participants were eligible for prizes based on the size of the fish caught in the shortest amount of time. One of the largest fish caught was at the trout derby in Yucaipa Regional Park last April, weighing in at 12 lbs. 7 oz. and caught by Jorge Estorga.

### Lake Gregory hosts Dragon Boat Festival

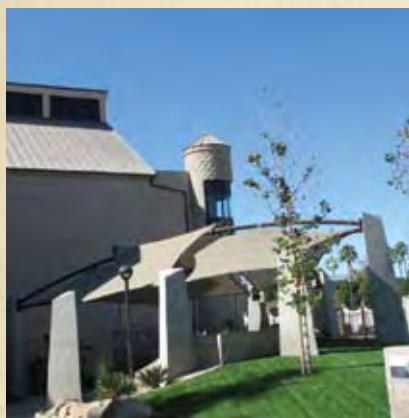
2008's Dragon Boat festival brought people from Long Beach to San Diego to the shores of Lake Gregory Regional Park to participate in the ancient Chinese ceremonial sport. Ten teams of 12 rowers each participated in the event with ages ranging from 8 to 81. There were two 20-foot-long dragon boats weighing more than 700 pounds going along a 250-meter course. Participation in this event, as well as attendance to cheer on the teams, enjoyed a significant increase since its introduction to the Crestline community in 2007 and received considerable media coverage.

### Work continues on Museum's Hansberger Hall of Geological Wonders

The San Bernardino County Museum has begun a comprehensive new initiative to expand, update, and enliven its campus and exhibit galleries to improve its educational mission by interpreting complex scientific and cultural disciplines in the context of our regional past, present, and future. The first phase of this three-phase project is the Dennis L. Hansberger Hall of Geological Wonders. Construction of the new hall drew to completion in 2008. The 12,000 square foot exhibit hall, three stories tall, connects to the existing museum. The construction phase includes an outdoor amphitheater and "green" landscaping. Exhibit fabrication is in progress and installation of interpretive displays is slated for completion in 2009.

The hall will be a fossil lover's heaven—a unique and exciting showcase for the geological and paleontologic wonders of the region. Immersive and dynamic exhibits will engage visitors in understanding and interpreting the unparalleled geologic processes, ancient environments and extinct life in southern California. Residents of Southern California have no venue that fully presents this complex story in a clear, understandable, and entertaining manner, and nowhere else can this exciting and intricate story be told with such authority and enthusiasm than at the San Bernardino County Museum.

The Hall of Geological Wonders will showcase fossils from distinct time periods, clearly explaining the complex geologic forces that have enabled such a rich record of ancient life to be preserved. Visitors will be immersed in ancient landscapes—the shores of





## Arts, Culture and Tourism (Continued)



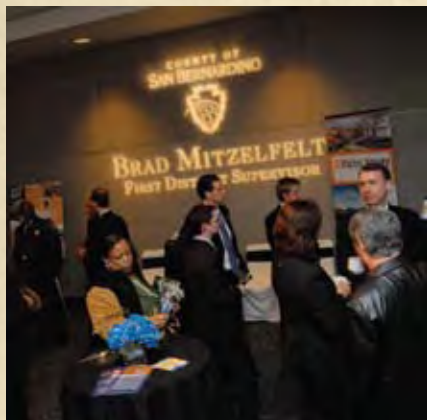
a Paleozoic sea, Jurassic tidal flats, and Ice Age caves carved into mountain rock. The collections and professional staff of the San Bernardino County Museum are uniquely qualified to create dynamic presentations and interpretations of these ancient vistas.

Phase Two of this exciting initiative has already begun with the redesign and reconstruction of existing exhibit galleries (anthropology and history, with biological science to follow) using modern interpretive techniques to make our county's cultural and natural history come alive for school groups, local residents, and a growing tourist market. Phase Three will address the museum's physical campus, including construction of a conference center and a collections center, both of which will work to assure the safety and preservations of the museum's priceless collections while dedicating more space to public exhibitions and experiences. The museum is working with county, state, federal, and community funding agencies to bring about this vision for the citizens of San Bernardino County.





# Economic Development and Recovery



## County Commits \$25 Million to Secure \$65.5 Million in Transportation Funding

On September 9 the Board of Supervisors approved three agreements to secure \$65.5 million in state bond funding for key transportation projects, including reconstructing interchanges at Cherry and Citrus avenues on Interstate 10 and building a railroad grade separation on Glen Helen Parkway. The agreements between the County and the California Transportation Commission require the County to commit \$25 million for the projects. The County's portion is expected to come from development fees; however, if development fees cannot cover the cost, the County can request a loan of Measure I dollars from the county's transportation commission. "This funding represents an unprecedented investment in the County's transportation system," Supervisor Paul Biane said. "With these dollars, the County and its partners can move forward with three vital projects that will provide traffic relief for thousands and thousands of drivers on a daily basis."



## San Bernardino County Moves to Reclaim Foreclosures

On December 1 the Board of Supervisors advanced a bold economic recovery plan to correct the Inland Empire's catastrophic mortgage meltdown and reduce unemployment rates hovering near 10 percent by agreeing to contract with the Inland Empire Economic Recovery Corporation. The nonprofit public benefit corporation will stabilize Inland neighborhoods by acquiring foreclosed residential properties, then rehabilitating and selling them to qualified buyers. About 42,356 homes in San Bernardino County currently are bank-owned, scheduled for auction or have been subjected to notices of default. In the past 11 months, property values in San Bernardino County have plummeted nearly 42 percent. San Bernardino County leaders say participation in the Economic Recovery Corporation is the best way to manage thousands of residential properties that once were owner-occupied but are now vacant magnets for crime, or that are being snapped up for prices below their real value and turned into rentals.



## Supervisors Approve Plan to Address Foreclosure Crisis

On November 18 the Board of Supervisors approved a plan to address the foreclosure crisis in the County. The plan includes programs to be implemented using \$22.8 million allocated to the County through the federal Housing and Recovery Act of 2008. The Housing Recovery Act allocated \$3.92 billion in emergency funding nationwide to address abandoned and foreclosed homes through the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). The NSP funds were allocated to communities hardest hit by the foreclosure crisis to purchase foreclosed homes and rehabilitate and redevelop the homes to stabilize neighborhoods and stem the significant losses in home values of neighboring residences.

Supervisors adopted a program to implement the NSP in San Bernardino County by



## *Economic Development and Recovery* (Continued)



allocating funds among six separate programs. Three of the programs will receive the majority of the funds, \$14 million, and are directed at assisting homebuyers with purchasing foreclosed homes. The balance of the funds will be directed at efforts to acquire and rehabilitate foreclosed properties.

### Progress made toward High Desert Corridor

In 2008 substantial progress was made toward the development of the High desert Corridor, a 50-mile, \$900 million expressway linking the Victor Valley with the Palmdale-Lancaster area. The High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority adopted a budget and made a commitment to select a firm to build the project. "The High Desert Corridor will serve as a new model for building major infrastructure projects in California. This public-private partnership will create a major new route for freight movement that will benefit the entire region in terms of jobs, air quality and traffic congestion," said San Bernardino County First District Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt, who also serves as chairman of the Joint Powers Authority. The JPA's \$1.25 million initial operating budget this fiscal year is being funded with \$500,000 of federal funds transferred from the City of Victorville, \$500,000 from Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority and \$250,000 from Los Angeles County. The JPA is composed of representatives from San Bernardino and Los Angeles counties, Adelanto, Apple Valley, Lancaster, Palmdale and Victorville.

### County partners with Cal State San Bernardino

As part of the county's ongoing effort to attract the next generation of county employees, the county Human Resources Department recently established an on-site career counseling program with California State University, San Bernardino. The program allows students access to appointments with employment analysts to discuss career options, current job opportunities, academic preparation, and the process of applying for jobs with the county. Human Resources is also conducting monthly general information sessions that demonstrate how to navigate the county's web site, search for job opportunities, enroll in job interest notifications and, most importantly, how to complete the on-line application.

### County helps BNSF develop job training program

BNSF Railway, one of the county's large transportation employers, has an ongoing need for highly skilled and trained dispatch workers in its San Bernardino Command Center. The company had primarily recruited from Texas to fill open positions in San Bernardino, which offer an annual wage of approximately \$70,000. However, it was traditionally difficult for BNSF to keep its newly trained out-of-state recruits in California because of the higher cost of living. To help meet its need for a local pool of trained and skilled workers, the San Bernardino County Workforce Investment Board developed an intensive railroad dispatcher-training program to fill crucial positions for BNSF. So far, two classes of eight students have undergone the program. Seven members of the first



## Economic Development and Recovery (Continued)



class completed the training and are now working full-time as railroad dispatchers in the BNSF San Bernardino Command Center. A second group of trainees is slated to graduate in October and discussions are under way for a possible third training session.

### County's assistance to aviation firm results in award

The county Workforce Development Department contracted with the State of California Employment Training Panel (ETP) and Southern California Aviation (SCA) to provide training to upgrade the skills of Southern California Aviation employees. SCA is a certified FAA repair station at the Southern California Logistics Airport in Victorville, Calif. The program enrolled current SCA employees into advanced technology courses on various aircraft types. As part of the partnership, SCA guaranteed that each employee would earn at least \$15 per hour at the completion of training. To date, 68 trainees have been enrolled into the ETP project. Of these, 37 have completed training and 27 are actively training. Four trainees who completed training have gone on to positions garnering an increase in wages of \$8 to \$10 per hour on average. Three employees enrolled in Bachelor of Science degree programs and two of them received degrees in January 2008. In February 2008, the Federal Aviation Administration honored SCA with The Diamond Certificate of Excellence award for their continued commitment to training programs offered to their employees. Both the state of California ETP staff and WDD administrative staff were honored for their contributions to SCA's success.

### Congressman Dreier's Road to Employment Job Fair

The County of San Bernardino Workforce Development Department worked with Congressman David Drier to organize his 3rd annual Road to Employment Job Fair on April 2 in Rancho Cucamonga. Previously the Congressman's job fairs were presented in LA County. Due to the relationship developed by the Workforce Development Department and Congressman Dreier the Road to Employment Job Fairs are now held in San Bernardino County. More than 1,000 job seekers attended this event to take advantage of the opportunity to meet with more than 100 employers and organizations that provided assistance in job search strategies and training to upgrade their skills. Workshops to improve job search techniques, interview skills and resumes were also presented. This was the premier job fair for San Bernardino County residents.



# Green County



## Green County website launched

San Bernardino County residents and businesses can learn about meaningful steps they can take to protect the environment and actions the County and others have taken to go “green” when they visit a comprehensive Website ([www.greencountysb.com](http://www.greencountysb.com)) launched in September. “We collected information from a number of sources and selected the best ‘green’ tips and local projects we could find to create a Website that will be both enlightening and useful to residents,” said Supervisor Paul Biane, who proposed a series of policy initiatives dubbed Green County San Bernardino in August 2007.

The program, which was unanimously approved by the Board of Supervisors, included waiving County building fees when home or business owners install renewable energy systems or energy-saving air-conditioners or tankless water heaters. In addition, new home developers can get moved to the front of County’s final inspection line if the homes meet stringent California Green Builder standards. The new website features more information about Green County San Bernardino as well as details on how other local agencies and private businesses are reducing their impacts on the environment through renewable energy and sustainable design. Visitors will also find a variety of “green” tips including how to find a carpool partner, how to reduce junk mail, and how to conserve water through the use of water-efficient landscaping.

## Cities applauded for “Going Green”

In February, Supervisor Paul Biane commended San Bernardino County cities that had implemented “green” policies to promote alternative energy, sustainable development and recycling in their communities. For example, Barstow adopted a landscape ordinance requiring desert adaptive landscaping for all new construction, Chino installs artificial turf instead of grass in medians and provides low-flow toilets to residents, and Loma Linda provides expedited plan checks for energy-efficient developments. Additionally, several cities have adopted resolutions to become Green Valley Jurisdictions through the Green Valley Initiative, an unprecedented movement designed to address the regional jobs/housing imbalance by attracting and developing “green” technology companies and jobs to the Inland Empire.

## Facilities Management creates water-wise demonstration garden

In a continuing effort to incorporate green business practices into daily operations and conserve natural resources, the county Facilities Management Department turned what was originally 27,000 square feet of turf into a water-wise demonstration garden and turf test center. The garden is an opportunity to showcase the beauty and diversity of drought-tolerant California-friendly and -native plants. It also provides living examples of options for homeowners in their own yards and other county facilities for their landscaping. The turf test center features plots of five different types of turf, selected for their drought-tolerance, aesthetic appeal, and durability. The plots are being monitored



## Green County (Continued)



and water consumption is being tracked to determine which type of turf offers the most durable and appealing lawn while using the least amount of water. Additional features of the garden to promote the most efficient use of resources include ambient light irrigation controls, mulch, and drip irrigation systems. The mulch used by Facilities Management is green waste diverted from landfills. The installation of a more efficient drip irrigation system, as compared to traditional sprinklers, and in conjunction with plants suited to the climate of San Bernardino County and the measures described above has resulted in a projected annual water savings of 80 percent or 1.8 million gallons annually for this project.

### County launches Disposal Site Diversion Program

In 2008, the county's Solid Waste Management Division created the Comprehensive Site Diversion Program to substantially increase the rate at which reusable materials are diverted away from landfills and sent to facilities where they can be recycled. The program is in effect at all six of the county's regional landfills and three of the county's transfer stations. As customers enter the facility, a load checker identifies loads containing potential divertible materials such as wood, construction and demolition debris, yard waste, metals, plastics, glass, tires, mattresses, paper and cardboard. Customers with loads containing these materials are directed to the recyclable and bulky item storage area. All recovered/recycled items are stored in this area for later removal by a contract recycler. Items that cannot be recycled are used on-site — for instance, yard waste is ground and used to cover daily waste. Since the program's implementation, the county has seen a significant increase in the percentage of the waste stream that is diverted. As an example, the busiest landfill, Mid-Valley in Rialto, diverted 6,000 tons in August of 2008, compared to 1,390 tons of waste in August of 2007.

### Green library opens in Highland

May saw the dedication of the first-ever library and environmental learning center, the Sam J. Racadio Library & Environmental Learning Center in Highland. This 30,000-square-foot facility hosts an interesting and entertaining collection of creatures of all kinds: snakes, lizards, frogs, turtles, fish, insects and small mammals. Patrons are treated to a number of educational exhibits on solid waste management, conservation and other environmental themes. Children have an interactive trash truck exhibit that teaches them how to sort and recycle while they're young, preparing them for more responsible stewardship of their planet as they grow up. There's an open-air atrium-amphitheater for outside events and the roof includes a garden with specialized plantings selected for drought-tolerance, along with solar electric panels and solar-tube lighting that brings natural sunlight down into the library proper, providing big savings in energy costs. All the building's concrete and steel are recycled. The flooring is almost entirely recycled tires. Even water run-off is set to be captured and allowed to filter back down into the water table.



## Green County (Continued)



### Board adds “silver” lining to Crestline library project

In March, the Board of Supervisors increased the design budget for the planned Crestline Library so architects can incorporate Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standards in the building design. The additional \$90,500 approved by the Board will also cover the cost of creating a three-dimensional library rendering for use during public presentations. The Board of Supervisors has shown a commitment to delivering county facilities that adhere to rigorous green building standards to conserve resources such as energy and water and lessen impacts on the environment.

### County totes green for NASCAR

The Green County San Bernardino movement picked up speed in February as a program offering eco-friendly reusable shopping bags took the green flag at the Auto Club Speedway of Southern California in Fontana. The Board of Supervisors provided green reusable shopping bags to infield race fans during NASCAR events at the speedway. The bags can carry up to 22 pounds and are recyclable once they are no longer usable. About 12 million barrels of oil and 14 million trees are used to produce billions of plastic and paper bags each year in the U.S.

### Board moves to form permanent oversight of preserve

In May the Board of Supervisors approved a formal application to create a single entity to permanently oversee the North Etiwanda Preserve, which encompasses 1,200 acres along the foothills between Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga. The application to the Local Agency Formation Commission calls for the consolidation of two community service area open space districts that were created to maintain the preserve using endowment funding. Since 1994, developers and public agencies have purchased land for the preserve as mitigation for other projects, such as the construction of the 210 Freeway. In addition, the entities set aside funding for maintenance of the mitigation lands.

### County purchases “green” dump trucks

In January, the Board of Supervisors approved the purchase of three compressed natural gas-powered dump trucks to replace pollution-producing diesel trucks. These natural gas trucks are part of the County of San Bernardino’s concerted effort to use ‘green’ technology to lessen impacts on our environment. The County has already added about 50 electric-hybrid vehicles to its fleet over the past three years, and the County will continue to invest in environmentally friendly vehicles as it continues moving forward. The Department of Public Works recommended purchasing the three compressed natural gas-powered trucks to replace aging and difficult-to-maintain diesel units in the Flood Control District’s vehicle fleet.



# Good Government



## Fire Department Reorganization Finalized

The Fire Reorganization Plan was finalized and became effective July 1, dissolving 27 separate fire districts and merging them into a single fire protection district with four regional service zones. This reorganization created the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District, the parent organization that provides all administration, payroll, fiscal and support services, as County Fire's administration had done in the past. Four regional service zones were created, leaving functions unchanged, but securing property taxes on a regional level that will provide continued fire services well into the future. In addition, within the new fire protection district, existing special taxes that were created by special elections will remain in place. All revenue collected from each area will continue to be spent only within that area, and each will be identified as a Service Zone. The reorganization will continue to improve the delivery of fire services and the department's overall operating efficiency.

## County donates 16 pallets of donated goods to troops

In March the county concluded an enormously successful countywide effort to collect items for deployed military personnel, resulting in 16 pallets loaded with donations. The San Bernardino County Department of Veterans Affairs, which led the program known as "Support Our Troops 2007," worked with Bill and Diane Boone of "Touch of Home: Support 4R Deployed Military, Inc." to get donations to the troops. San Bernardino County employees and residents donated more than 50,000 items, including T-shirts, snacks, DVDs, and hygiene products. The donations were valued at \$250,000.

County provides full salaries & benefits to military members

## County provides full benefits to military employees

In 2008 the Board of Supervisors again went above and beyond the call of duty in providing full salaries and benefits to county employees serving in the armed forces. State law requires the county to pay employees on active duty full benefits and the difference between their county salary and their military salary for only their first 30 days of service. The board voted to extend the benefits and supplemental pay for as long as someone is assigned to active duty. The county began providing benefits and supplemental pay to active-duty military members shortly after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The Board of Supervisors has renewed the program continuously since that time. Since the program started, 118 county employees have served on active duty and received the extended pay and benefits, which include medical, dental, retirement service credit and contributions, and leave accruals.

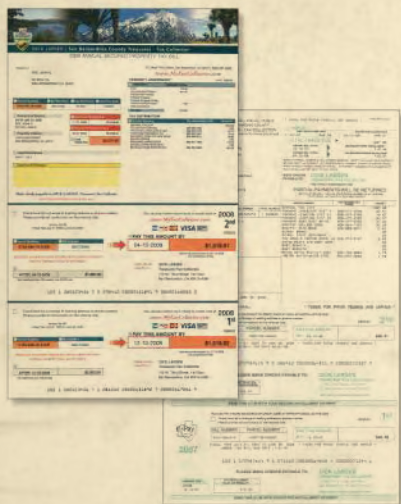


## County budget again garners international recognition

In 2008, for the second consecutive year, the county was internationally honored for being open and accountable to the public by receiving the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. The award reflects the county's commitment to meeting the highest principles of



## Good Government (Continued)



governmental budgeting. The staff of the County Administrative Office works hard each year to create a budget that not only responsibly accounts for and allocates the county's assets, but also clearly communicates to the public what the county does with their resources. GFOA judges praised the county's budget document for being "outstanding as a communications device" and "very well organized, concise, and user friendly" – a notable task considering the document contains more than 700 pages.

### County helps families by holding the line on rate increases

In an effort to assist families as they cope with a national economic crisis, the county in 2008 announced plans to scale-back proposed rate increases for vital services provided through the Special Districts Department. Under normal circumstances, rate adjustments for various Special Districts services, such as water and sewer services in the unincorporated areas, would have increased by as much as 10 percent in some districts effective July 1 to support facility plant expansion projects, maintenance and the rising cost of utilities and fuel. However, in consideration of families already facing rising costs for fuel and other products in the face of declining property values and employment prospects, the Special Districts Department raised rates by no more than 3 percent in most of the districts it oversees to cover the cost of inflation. Rates were increased only to the degree necessary to maintain current levels of service and the fiscal stability of each respective district.

### Board adopts balanced budget with enhanced services

Despite a historic slow-down in revenue growth combined with an increasing need for county services, the Board of Supervisors in June adopted a balanced, on-time, \$4.3 billion 2008-09 budget. The budget allows for necessary increases in public safety and human services as well as maintenance of quality-of-life programs while not imposing additional burdens on taxpayers. "While other California counties and cities are being forced to cut services, raise taxes, lay off employees, deplete reserves and even consider bankruptcy, our county continues to meet the needs of our residents and build for the future," said then-Board of Supervisors Chairman Paul Biane.

### Supervisors name museum hall in honor of Hansberger



The Board of Supervisors in November announced plans to name the newest attraction at the San Bernardino County Museum after Third District Supervisor Dennis Hansberger on the occasion of his final meeting as a member of the board. The Dennis Hansberger Hall of Geologic Wonders is scheduled to open in the spring of 2009. The 12,000-square-foot, three-floor addition to the County Museum in Redlands will feature exhibits focused on the geologic history of the Southwest. During the meeting, Supervisor Hansberger was also honored by a long list of elected officials and public agencies for his years of service to the people of San Bernardino County. Supervisor Hansberger had been a member of the Board of Supervisors for 20 years, from 1972 to 1980 and from 1996 until the present. During that time he served as a strong advocate for the County Museum



## Good Government (Continued)



and other cultural and quality-of-life services for residents, a consistent voice for reform and ethics, a supporter of fiscal responsibility and accountability, and a proponent for countless essential projects in his district and throughout the county.

### Gonzales, Mitzelfelt, and Derry take oath of office

Supervisor Josie Gonzales began her second full term representing the Fifth District, Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt began his first full term serving the First District, and Supervisor Neil Derry began his first term as the Third District representative following Oath of Office ceremonies at the County Government Center on December 1. Supervisor Gonzales joined the board in 2004 and last month was re-elected to a second term. The Board of Supervisors appointed Supervisor Mitzelfelt to the Board in 2007 to fill a vacancy. Supervisor Derry was elected in June and succeeds Dennis Hansberger.

### Supervisors expedite construction of High Desert Government Center

In March, the Board of Supervisors approved an agreement with the City of Hesperia for pre-construction, design, and program management services that will cut at least six months off of the time needed to build a new High Desert County Government Center in the city. "Bringing this new facility to the Victor Valley will mean improved service and convenience for High Desert residents," said Supervisor Brad Mitzelfelt, who has led the county's efforts to plan, finance and build the new center. "The new government center will provide a variety of County services in one location – saving High Desert residents from having to visit multiple offices or drive to San Bernardino." The new government center will be a 55,000 square foot office building and is anticipated to house several county departments, including: Agriculture/Weights and Measures, Board of Supervisors, Fire Marshal, Human Resources, Land Use Services, Public Health (Environmental Health Services), Assessor, Public Works, Registrar of Voters, Treasurer/Tax Collector, and Veterans Affairs. Construction is expected to commence by late 2008 and be complete in early 2010.



### 2007 Fire Debris Removal Program

In October of 2007, the Grass Valley and Slide wildfires swept through San Bernardino County's local mountains, causing mass destruction in the communities of Fredalba/Smiley Park, Running Springs, Green Valley Lake, and Lake Arrowhead. After raging for days, the devastation resulted in the loss of 14,000 acres of land and 529 residences. With direction and support of the Board of Supervisors and the County Administrative Office, the county's Solid Waste Management Division oversaw a debris removal and clean-up program at no out-of-pocket cost to the fire victims. The clean-up program focused on environmental protection and community education with the ultimate goal being the clean-up and rebuilding of the mountain areas in a quick and efficient manner. The county's program is now being used as a model for a neighboring jurisdiction's own debris removal program.



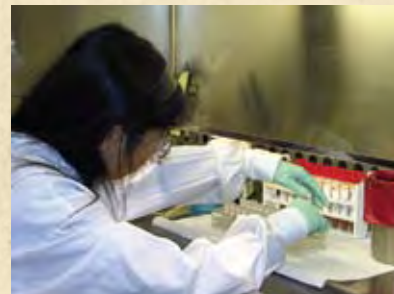


# OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEES 2008

As part of Public Service Recognition Week, on May 6, 2008 the Board of Supervisors honored 45 County employees chosen as “outstanding” for customer service, initiative, leadership, accomplishments, attitude, and community service apart from their jobs. The following County employees were recognized as Outstanding Employees for 2008:



Juan Ayala / Arrowhead Regional Medical Center  
 Angelica Baltazar / Public Health  
 Marcene Bell / PERC  
 Delores Brown / Workforce Development  
 Keith Burke / Real Estate Services  
 Joon Cho / Auditor/Controller-Recorder  
 Sandy Cleland / Agriculture/Weights & Measures  
 Curtis Compton / Economic Development  
 Meghan Cosgriff / Aging & Adult Services  
 Robert Dashoff / Sheriff-Coroner  
 Robin Derdowski / Treasurer-Tax Collector/Public Administrator  
 Veronica Diez / Veterans Affairs  
 Joyce Douglas / Children's Services  
 Melissa Eickman / Registrar of Voters  
 Lora Emon / Special Districts  
 Erik Endler / Assessor  
 Suzan Garrido / Solid Waste Management  
 Jim Grant / Probation  
 Melvin Green / Risk Management  
 Michele Haney / Regional Parks  
 Larry Herkelrath / Architecture & Engineering  
 Tom Herrin / Surveyor  
 Kandi Kinney / Transitional Assistance  
 Vicky Kosmala / Child Support Services  
 Heather Lewis / Behavioral Health  
 Armando Luna / Airports  
 Jamie Marcellus / Community Development & Housing  
 Penny Mason / Library  
 Ronald Matyas / Land Use Services  
 Mary Mayes / Clerk of the Board  
 Gary McCord / Fire  
 Marylou Mermilliod / Flood Control  
 Johnny Moore / Facilities Management  
 Mary O'Toole / Board of Supervisors  
 Christine Ricker / Human Resources  
 Donna Rienstra / Public Defender  
 Becky Rinkes / District Attorney  
 Marissa Rivera / Economic Development Agency  
 Dave Roden / Fleet Management  
 Carla Rosenkild / Museum  
 Charles Scolastico / County Counsel  
 Johnson Selvadurai / Preschool Services  
 Vidal Vargas / Information Services  
 Kelly Welty / Administrative Office  
 Brenda Williams / Purchasing





# GOLDEN GUARDIAN



The 2008 Golden Guardian Exercise was a Statewide Disaster Scenario based on a 7.8 magnitude earthquake on the southern section of the San Andreas Fault coordinated by the Office of Emergency Services. The San Bernardino County Operational Area (OA) 2008 Golden Guardian (GG08) Exercise preparation activities began in early 2007.

This "EOC Centric" exercise was expected to run from November 13, 2008, to November 18, 2008, but on Nov. 15, the Freeway Complex Fires broke out and both state and local Recovery activities for Nov. 17 and 18 were canceled.

The first two days of the exercise were a bustling success with almost 200 players and visitors in the EOC each day to exercise eight objectives including mass care and shelter, communications, restoration of lifelines, EOC management, economic and community recovery, medical surge, public safety and security, and emergency public information. Public Information Officers from around the region crowded into one of the Department's mobile command vehicles to form a Joint Information Center for the exercise.

Multiple federal, state and local agencies as well as all 43 County Departments and all 24 Cities and Towns in San Bernardino County participated in some form.

OES used the County's WebEOC Crisis Management program, which provides a common operating picture and real-time situational awareness for all County/Operational Area EOCs and Department Operation Centers (DOCs).

Several Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) around the area also participated in Golden Guardian and the communities of Wrightwood, San Antonio Heights and Phelan/Pinon Hills each held exercises.

Simultaneously, OES coordinated a extensive public preparedness outreach effort in partnership with the Great Southern California ShakeOut where more than half a million San Bernardino County residents registered to participate.

The ShakeOut Drill turned out to be the largest earthquake preparedness event in U.S. history. The earthquake scenario is a realistic portrayal of what would happen to this region in a major earthquake, and promoted the need for earthquake awareness and preparedness for the 22 million residents of southern California. On the day of the ShakeOut, 5.47 million people participated from eight southern California counties in the "Drop, Cover and Hold On" drill. San Bernardino County was a major player in the ShakeOut, offering events countywide, with the San Bernardino County Museum providing the main event on the day of the ShakeOut.

First District Supervisor and California Seismic Safety Commissioner Brad Mitzelfelt led the ShakeOut effort in San Bernardino County and together with County Administrative Officer Mark Uffer engaged schools, community groups as well as all 43 County departments and 19,000-plus County employees with the goal of encouraging residents around the County to prepare for an eventual earthquake in our region.

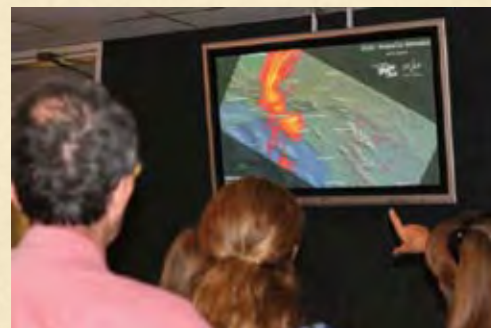


## Golden Guardian (Continued)

# The Great Southern California Shake Out

### Golden Guardian By the Numbers

- 17 – Total months of planning
- 4 – San Bernardino County Operational Area Planning Conferences conducted and/or planned
- 40 – Hours of GECO Training and Exercise Meetings
- 260 – Participants in the WebEOC Dress Rehearsal
- 76 – People trained in the use of WebEOC at September EOC training sessions
- 85 – Hours of Working Group/Core Planner Meetings
- 108 –Golden Guardian Correspondences
- 150 – Average attendance for OA Planning Conferences
- 250,000 – ShakeOut Fliers printed by OES to promote preparedness
- 19,000 + -- County employees who received information about the ShakeOut
- 15,000 – Number of Fliers distributed to promote the Preparedness Events
- 502,035 – San Bernardino County residents registered in the Great Southern California ShakeOut





# COUNTY EARNS 11 NATIONAL AWARDS

Programs and services created by the County of San Bernardino received eleven 2008 Achievement Awards from the National Association of Counties.

“Our county consistently wins several of these awards, and this year is no exception,” said Board of Supervisors Chairman Gary Ovitt. “Our county has every reason to be proud.”

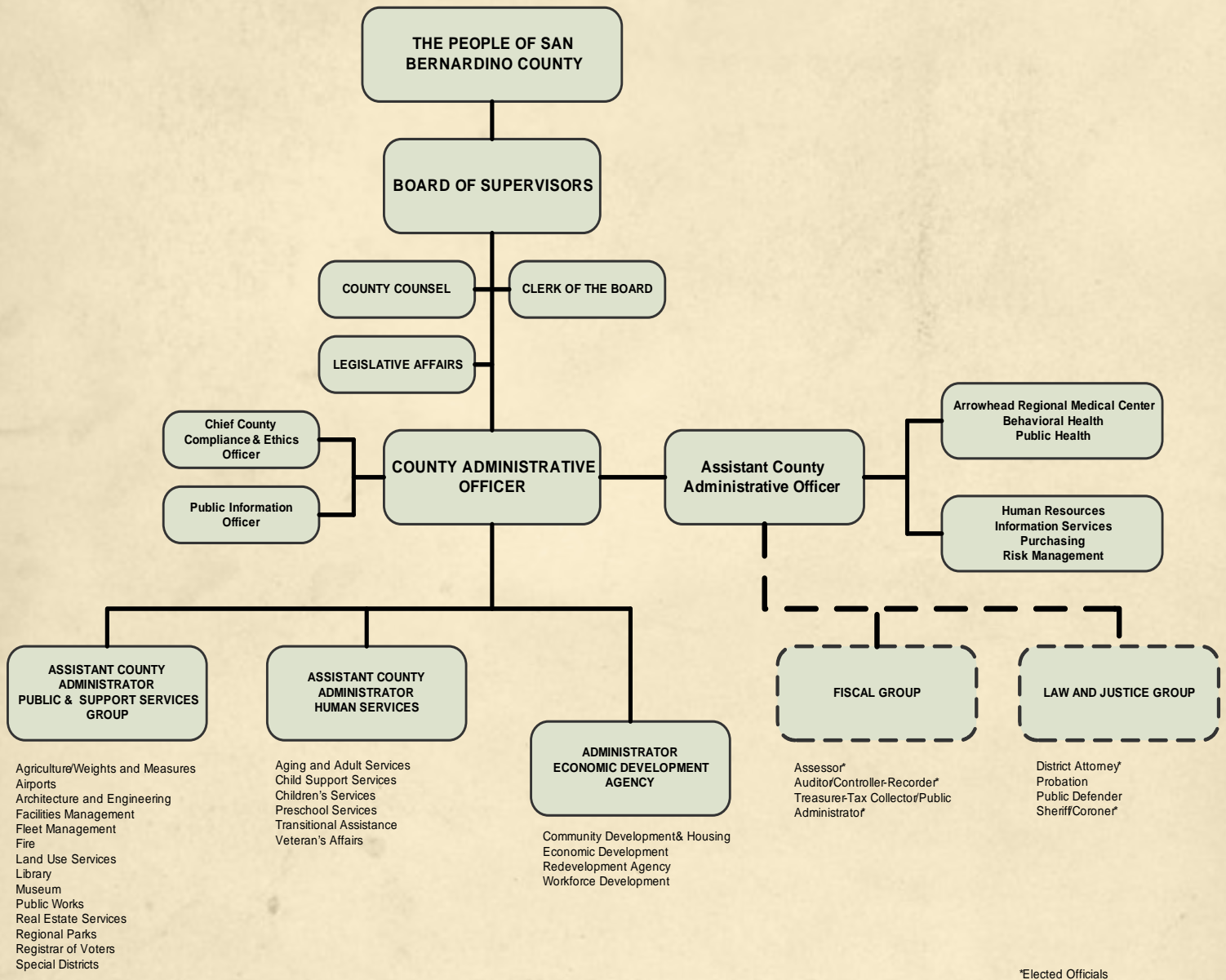
The NACo Achievement Awards Program recognizes counties for improving the services they deliver to the public. Only seven of California’s 58 counties received Achievement Awards this year. The following are San Bernardino County’s winning programs:

- Online Access to Financial Disclosure Statements/Board of Supervisors Chairman Gary Ovitt and the Clerk of the Board
- County Reel/County Administrative Office & Information Services Department
- Disaster Response Mobile Connectivity Solution/Information Services Department
- Emergency Calls/Awareness Program/Aging & Adult Services
- Project Facelift/Facilities Management
- Food Industry and Retail Service Training/Public Health
- Integrated New Family Opportunities/Behavioral Health & Probation
- International Trade Program/Economic Development Agency
- One Stop Transitional Age Youth Center/Behavioral Health
- Pathways to Success: Apprenticeship Training Program/Preschool Services Department
- Rapid Response Team/Arrowhead Regional Medical Center





# County Organizational Chart



County Government Center



Arrowhead Regional Medical Center



San Bernardino County Superior Courthouse



## COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO QUICK FACTS BY DEPARTMENT

### **Agriculture/Weights and Measures**

- Inspects 20,000 gas pumps, 5,500 scales, and 6,500 meters annually.
- Provides nearly 60,000 plant quarantine inspections annually.

### **Aging and Adult Services**

- Serves 780,000 meals to seniors annually.
- Provides In-Home Supportive Services to more than 18,000 seniors annually.
- Investigates more than 7,000 Adult Protective Services reports annually.
- Provides information and assistance to over 8,000 citizens annually.

### **Airports**

- Provides for the management, maintenance, and operation of 6 general aviation airports.

### **Auditor/Controller-Recorder**

- Issued 74,892 copies of birth certificates, 6,092 copies of death certificates and 17,478 copies of marriage certificates
- Issued 11,613 marriage licenses and performed 4,509 marriage ceremonies in FY 2007-08.
- Maintains more than 15,650,200 official records.
- Maintains more than 2,145,339 Vital Records.

### **Children's Services**

- Handles the adoptions of more than 500 children each year.
- Supervises nearly 5,800 children monthly, approximately 3,900 of whom are placed in foster homes.
- Investigates more than 27,000 emergency child abuse and neglect referrals annually.

### **Child Support Services**

- Provides child support services to more than 153,000 children monthly, collecting more than \$154,357,000 in child support payments annually.

### **County Library**

- Serves nearly 4,000,000 visitors annually through 30 libraries and 2 bookmobiles.
- Circulates 2,600,000 in library books and other items.
- Provides 1,000,000 computer reservations for public use.

### **County Museum**

- Receives more than 90,000 visitors per year at the County Museum and its 7 historical sites.

### **Land Use Services**

- Issued 11,450 building permits last year for construction valued at \$777,507,177.
- Provided construction plan checks for more than 4,148 building projects to ensure safe construction and proper occupancy usage.

### **Public Health**

- Provides approximately 33,000 annual immunizations (including children, adult, and travel).

### **Public Works**

- Maintains nearly 2,800 miles of roads in unincorporated areas.
- Provides flood protection through an extensive system of flood control and water conservation facilities that include 19 dams, 119 basins, approximately 268 miles of channels, and over 2,843 acres of spreading grounds.
- Provides map checking for development projects and record of surveys and land surveys services to County departments
- Provides trash disposal and recycling opportunities for all County communities utilizing 6 landfills and 9 transfer stations, regulates all trash hauling services in the unincorporated areas of the County.

### **Regional Parks**

- Welcomes more than 2.2 million persons each year to 9 regional parks covering 8,453 acres.

### **Sheriff-Coroner**

- Manages approximately 6,000 inmates each day at the county jails.



# COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

## COUNTYWIDE FACTS AND FIGURES

### **SIZE:**

20,160 square miles (largest county in the contiguous United States by area)

### **ELEVATION:**

Highest Elevation, Mt. San Gorgonio, 11,502 ft.

### **INCORPORATED CITIES:**

24

### **POPULATION BY CITY**

<b>INCORPORATED CITY</b>	<b>TOTAL 1/1/2008 ESTIMATED POPULATION</b>
Adelanto	28,181
Apple Valley	70,092
Barstow	23,952
Big Bear Lake	6,256
Chino	82,670
Chino Hills	78,957
Colton	51,918
Fontana	188,498
Grand Terrace	12,543
Hesperia	87,820
Highland	52,503
Loma Linda	22,632
Montclair	37,017
Needles	5,807
Ontario	173,690
Rancho Cucamonga	174,308
Redlands	71,807
Rialto	99,767
San Bernardino	205,493
Twentynine Palms	27,966
Upland	75,137
Victorville	107,408
Yucaipa	52,063
Yucca Valley	21,268
<b>Total Incorporated</b>	<b>1,757,753</b>
<b>Total Unincorporated</b>	<b>298,013</b>
<b>Total County of San Bernardino</b>	<b>2,055,766</b>

Source: State of California, Department of Finance, E-1: Population Estimate with Annual Percentage Change- January 1, 2007 and 2008. Sacramento, California, May 2008.

### **UNEMPLOYMENT:** 9.1% (Nov 2008)

Source: California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information

### **MAJOR COUNTY EMPLOYERS (July 2007):**

<b>Employer</b>	<b>Employees</b>
County	18,946
National Training Center*	14,025
Loma Linda University Health Center*	12,851
US Marine Corp Air/Ground Center*	12,486
Stater Bros.	7,900

Source: The Business Press, Copyright 2008

Note: Information was provided by the companies, agencies and institutions in this listing at the request of The Business Press. Business Press relied on each organization to report information completely and accurately. Several organizations were invited to provide information for the Business Press publication, but had not done so at press time.

\* 2007 figures

### **MAJOR COUNTY TAXPAYERS (Secured Taxpayers-2008-09 Property Tax Rolls)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Assessed Value</b>
Southern California Edison	\$1,561,256,753
Prologis	\$766,973,433
Verizon California, Inc.	\$685,625,497
Catellus	\$628,218,846
Loma Linda University	\$508,770,574
Majestic Realty Co.	\$481,611,538
Cemex	\$436,223,997
Kaiser	\$436,141,481
Riverside Cement Company	\$412,673,326
California Steel	\$401,003,713

Source: County of San Bernardino, Assessor and Auditor-Controller/Recorder Property Tax Division.

### **EMPLOYMENT MIX (2007):**

Services	556,200
Retail Trade	87,800
Government	119,100
Construction	42,900
Transportation & Public Utilities	171,400
Wholesale trade	35,200
Farming	3,100
Finance, insurance & real estate	27,000
Mining	600

Source: California Employment Development Department, SB County - Industry Employment and Labor Force - By Annual Average, August 15, 2008.



## **MEDIAN HOME PRICE (Nov 2008):** \$185,000

Source: California Association of Realtors, 2008.

## **ASSESSED VALUATIONS (FY 2008-09):**

\$187,190,591,729

## **MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME**

**(2007 estimate):** \$61,702

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey

## **PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME:** \$27,134 (2006)

Source: California Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information.

## **TAXABLE SALES (FY 2006-07):** \$31,110,107,000

Source: State Board of Equalization

## **REGIONAL PARKLAND:**

9,200 acres

## **COUNTY LIBRARY:**

30 Branches, 2 Bookmobiles

## **UNIVERSITIES/COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

(Ranked by # of students):

### **Four Year Universities (Fall 2007)**

1. California State University San Bernardino (17,066)
2. University of Redlands (4,188)
3. Loma Linda University (4,022)

### **Community Colleges (Fall 2007)**

1. Chaffey College (18,736)
2. San Bernardino Valley College (12,839)
3. Victor Valley Community College (10,149)
4. Crafton Hills College (5,382)
5. Barstow College (2,906)
6. Copper Mountain College (1,673)

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics.

## **AIRPORTS:**

1. Apple Valley Airport
2. Baker Airport
3. Cable Airport
4. Chino Airport
5. Daggett Airport
6. Hesperia Airport
7. Needles Airport
8. Ontario International Airport
9. San Bernardino Airport
10. Southern California Logistics Airport
11. Twentynine Palms Airport

## **TOURIST ATTRACTIONS:**

1. Big Bear Lake Resort
2. Calico Ghost Town\*
3. Auto Club Speedway
4. Colorado River
5. San Manuel Amphitheater at Glen Helen\*
6. Joshua Tree National Park
7. Lake Arrowhead Resort
8. Route 66

\*County-owned

## **TOP 6 HOSPITALS:**

(Ranked by # of beds)

1. Loma Linda University Medical Center, Loma Linda (749 beds)
2. Kaiser Foundation Hospital, Fontana (459 beds)\*
3. Arrowhead Regional Medical Center, Colton (353 beds)
4. St. Bernadine Medical Center, San Bernardino (293 beds)
5. Community Hospital of San Bernardino, San Bernardino (292 beds)
6. San Antonio Community Hospital, Upland (279 beds)

Source: Hospital Directory, 2008 U.S. News and World Report, L.P., provided by the American Hospital Association.

\*Number of beds derived from prior year data.

## **GENDER (2006 estimate):**

	Percent
Male	50.1%
Female	49.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey

## **RACE/ETHNICITY (2008 Projection):**

Hispanic	45.4%
White	36.8%
Black	9.7%
Asian	5.3%
American Indian	0.6%
Pacific Islander	0.3%
Multi-Race	2.0%

Source: State of California, Department of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2050. Sacramento, CA, July 2007. Total does not equal 100% due to rounding.

## **MEDIAN AGE (2007 estimate):** 30.3

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey

## **BIRTH RATE (2005 estimate):** 16.8 (per 1,000 population)

Source: Center for Health Statistics

## **DEATH RATE (2005 estimate):** 6.2 (per 1,000 population)

Source: Center for Health Statistics and State of California, Department of Finance, "E-1 City/County Population Estimates", May 2006.

## **POVERTY LEVEL (2007 estimate):** 13.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2005-2007 American Community Survey – Individuals. Families: 10.9%.

## **EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (2006 estimate of county population age 25 years and over):**

	Percent
Less than 9th grade	10.7%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	12.7%
HS grad (includes equivalency)	28.7%
Some college, no degree	22.5%
Associate's degree	8.1%
Bachelor's degree	11.7%
Graduate/professional degree	5.6%
High School graduate or higher	76.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher	17.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006 American Community Survey